



File Code: 2230  
Date: March 19, 2021

Marianne Leinassar and Kris Leinassar  
PO Box 12  
Smith, NV 89430

Dear Marianne Leinassar and Kris Leinassar

This letter documents the meeting held on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 between Marianne Leinassar, Kris Leinassar, and Floyd Rathbun of F.I.M. Corporation and Aaron Coogan of the Forest Service and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions for the 2021 spring/summer grazing season on the Bridgeport and Carson Ranger Districts.

The following is a summary of your permitted use, which expires on 12/31/2025.

LIVESTOCK			PERIOD OF USE		GRAZING ALLOTMENT
NUMBER	KIND	CLASS	FROM	TO	
1800	Sheep	Ewes	12/16	2/28	Sugarloaf S&G
Provides for one band of sheep up to 1800 head not to exceed 2100 head months or 35 days at full stocking					
5400	Sheep	Ewes	12/16	3/15	Sulphur S&G (Winter)
Provides for 3 bands of sheep up to 1800 head not to exceed 7200 head months or 36 days at full stocking					
1025	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	4/10	5/20	Sulphur S&G (Spring)
900	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	4/10	5/10	Sulphur S&G (Spring)
900	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	5/25	6/27	Pine Grove S&G
900	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	5/16	7/15	Bald Mountain S&G
1025	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	4/1	5/18	Saroni Canal S&G
On/Off permit 70% on FS 30% on permittee controlled land 718 head "on" 307 head "off"					
1025	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	4/16	5/31	Risue S&G
1025	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	6/1	6/25	Mill Canyon S&G
1925	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	6/19	10/15	Poison Creek S&G
Provides for two bands not to exceed 1025 and 900 respectively. Not to exceed 4320 head months or 67 days					
1025	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	5/16	6/15	Desert Peak S&G
1025	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	6/16	10/25	Burcham S&G
Not to exceed 2310 head months or 68 days at full stocking					
900	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	6/16	10/25	Cottonwood S&G
Not to exceed 2310 head months or 77 days at full stocking					
1650	Sheep	Ewes	4/1	7/15	Wild Oat S&G
Not to exceed 1300 head months or 24 days at full stocking					
1650	Sheep	Ewes	8/16	10/10	Campbell Loope S&G
900	Sheep	Ewe/lambs	6/28	9/30	Rickey S&G



This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8 (a). Situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact the Bridgeport District Ranger (District Ranger) and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

### **AUTHORIZED USE**

Due to variations in range readiness and site-specific factors the authorized season dates may be adjusted to accommodate green up timing and differing available forage due to microsite moisture variations. Contact this office and receive authorization prior to deviating from this plan. Authorized head months are not to be exceeded with any one band.

### **SARONI BAND - Edgar**

<b>Allotment</b>	<b>Number &amp; Class</b>	<b>Authorized Head Months</b>	<b>Season</b>
Saroni Canal S&G	718 on/ 307 off (1025 total)	921 on / 394 off	04/10-05/18
Risue S&G	1025 e/l	438	05/19-05/31
Mill Canyon S&G	1025 e/l	842	06/01-06/25
Poison Creek S&G	1025 e/l	4010	06/19-10/15

#### **SARONI CANAL S&G, RISUE S&G:**

- Grazing will begin on the Saroni portion, with 718 e/l accounted for "on" National Forest System lands, and 307 head under "off" provisions on permittee controlled private lands.

#### **MILL CANYON S&G:**

- Please review allowable use standards in your term grazing permit with respect to grazing management and terms and conditions of the Biological Opinion. Allowable use standards equivalent to those for the By-Day watershed portion of the Rickey Peak S&G Allotment are applicable to all National Forest System lands within the Mill Canyon watershed.

#### **POISON CREEK S&G:**

- Entrance of sheep onto the allotment will occur near Sonora Bridge, as it has in the past.
- You may water your sheep once near Sonora Bridge at the West Walker River when entering the allotment and you may also water your sheep south of the private land near Willow Flat. Grazing use in these instances must be **no more** than that associated with watering.
- This band will graze the western portion of the Allotment. They will then return north toward Leavitt Meadows. Please keep use of the West Walker trail to a minimum to avoid livestock conflicts with the public.
- Sheep are allowed to cross the West Walker River while in the Leavitt unit, and are allowed to water at the river. Except when watering, your sheep must be kept at least **100 feet** away from the river.

### **DESERT PEAK BAND - Jonny**

<b>Allotment</b>	<b>Number &amp; Class</b>	<b>Authorized Head Months</b>	<b>Season</b>
Sulphur S&G	950 e/l	1213	04/10-05/20
Desert Peak S&G	950 e/l	1045	05/16-06/15
Burcham S&G	950 e/l	NTE* 2310 or 74 days	06/16-09/20

\*Not to exceed

- Sheep will be trailed from Desert Peak via upper Desert Creek to Cottonwood S&G allotment.

This trailing route is authorized for one (1) day. Any trailing in excess of one day is not approved.

- You are authorized to haul water on the Desert Peak and Cottonwood and Burcham S&G Allotments during the 2021 grazing season.
- Permitted numbers for this band are 1025 e/l pairs. A voluntary reduction to 950 e/l pairs has been made to support grazing with this band on the Burcham Allotment due to the Boot Fire in 2018. 75 e/l pairs are in non-use for resource protection.
- Use of the Burcham Allotment is still limited due to the Boot Fire. Some areas have recovered enough to support light to moderate grazing, but some areas may still need to be avoided to allow for more recovery to occur. A determination will be made, and you will be notified, prior to turnout, of areas which will still need to be avoided. Note the authorized window for Burcham allotment is 96 days, NTE occupancy with 950 e/l pairs is 74 days.

#### **BALD MOUNTAIN BAND - Hilario**

<b>Allotment</b>	<b>Number &amp; Class</b>	<b>Authorized Head Months</b>	<b>Season</b>
Sulphur S&G	650 e/l	662	04/10-05/10
Pine Grove S&G	650 e/l	321	05/25-06/08
Bald Mountain S&G	650 e/l	470	06/09-06/30
Cottonwood S&G	650 e/l	2073	06/16-09/20

#### **BALD MOUNTAIN S&G:**

- To protect the populations of William's combleaf in and around the upper dry lakes on Bald Mountain, please avoid bedding or watering your sheep in these areas.
- The Forest Service considers the access road into Bald Mountain a low maintenance road. Therefore, you must maintain any road improvement(s) needed for a water truck to get into the area. Any road improvement must stay within the road prism. Any fill materials must be certified weed free and come from offsite locations.
- You are authorized to graze the Bald Mountain Allotment before the Pine Grove allotment if it is necessary due to the availability of water on Bald Mountain. Please contact Aaron if this becomes necessary.

#### **COTTONWOOD S&G:**

- Due to the Boot Fire in 2018 authorization for the Cottonwood Allotment last year was for a voluntary reduction in numbers in order to avoid the burned area. Permitted numbers for this band are usually 900 e/l pairs. Some areas have recovered enough to support light to moderate grazing. Some areas may still need some level of avoidance. A determination will be made, and you will be notified of any avoidance areas prior to turnout.

#### **POISON CREEK S&G:**

- This band will graze the eastern portion of the allotment and return north to Leavitt Meadows after lambs are shipped.
- Because two bands will be at Leavitt Meadows for shipping, please pay close attention to utilization in the area. You may move one or both bands back to the low elevations of Poison Creek S&G if necessary.
- **Occupancy of the allotment by both bands is not to exceed 4320 head months.** Please contact Aaron if you have any questions about how to calculate head months. Pay particular attention that your authorized head months are not exceeded while two bands of sheep are authorized.

**OTHER SUMMER/FALL ALLOTMENTS - Cesar****RICKEY S&G:**

<b>Allotment</b>	<b>Number &amp; Class</b>	<b>Authorized Head Months</b>	<b>Season</b>
Rickey Labrosse	650 e/l	321	07/17-07/31
Rickey Peek	650 e/l	1303	08/01-09/30

Authorized use for the allotment will be for 650 e/l pairs from 7/17 to 9/20. Authorized use on the Labrosse Unit will be from 7/18 to 7/31 and the Rickey Peak Unit will be from 8/1 to 9/20. Total authorization is for 1624 Head Months.

- Use of the Labrosse Unit of Rickey S&G Allotment is covered under informal consultation with Fish and Wildlife Service File No. 2016-I-0344 dated June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This consult expires after the 2025 grazing season.
- The following measures related to informal consultation are incorporated into your Term Grazing Permit:
  1. The permittee will notify the Forest Service (District Ranger or Rangeland Management Specialist), by telephone or in person, at least 48 hours before entering and exiting the Unit to fully document the actual season of use which will occur annually between June 28 and July 31;
  2. 48 hours prior to the permittee entering the Unit, the Forest Service will contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the most recent (as of the date of the call) SNBS locations. If SNBS are known to be located north of the Trigger Line for the Unit, the permittee will be contacted by the Forest Service and domestic sheep will not enter the Unit on the scheduled date of entry. Domestic sheep will not be authorized to enter the Unit until such time as the SNBS have moved south of the Trigger Line for the Unit as described in the BA. Authorization for entry will be credible reported sightings, as determined by the District Ranger;
  3. The permittee will provide instruction/training and supervision to ranch and staff members (i.e., camptenders and sheepherders) specific to SNBS identification, prevention of contact, and escape plan procedures as described in the BA. The permittee will monitor and ensure that the Forest Service's grazing standards and guidelines are being followed and document meetings and instructions to sheepherders in a logbook;
  4. The permittee will place and retain 1 sheepherder and 2 guard dogs and at least 1 herding dog with the domestic sheep while in the Unit. More experienced, informed, and responsible sheepherders will be placed with the band of sheep on the Unit. Sheepherders will be instructed to avoid moving domestic sheep through dense vegetation and to increase their vigilance on bright, moonlit nights. The permittee must utilize herding and guard dogs on the Unit that are mature and effective. Female dogs in heat will not be placed on the Unit;
  5. The permittee will conduct on and off counts of all individual sheep to document the number of sheep on the Unit. The permittee will provide the District Ranger or Rangeland Management Specialist with this number within 24 hours of each count. Forest Service employees will be present during these counts as workload allows;
  6. The permittee will use a marker sheep ratio of at least 1:20. Marker ewes will include ewes that are naturally colored black sheep, individuals with bells (at least a ratio of 1:100), and other ewes with distinguishing marks. If using "bell" sheep as markers an identifying mark will be placed on the bell sheep in case the bell is lost. If a marker sheep is lost (i.e., dies, is removed from the band) it will be replaced. The 1:20 ratio must be met all season long;

7. The permittee shall conduct marker sheep counts once a day. A complete full count will also be required, as soon as possible after a predation or weather event in which the band is “scattered.” “Scattered” is defined as more than sight or sound distance between groups of sheep. These counts will be recorded in a logbook which specifies the total marker sheep count, how many losses, and what the loss was (e.g., ewe, lamb), when a “scattering” event occurs, and what caused the loss. The logbook will be provided to the District Ranger or Rangeland Management Specialist at the end of the grazing period for the Unit. This logbook can be faxed, mailed, or hand delivered to the Forest Service;
8. If at any time during the grazing season or during the off count, a domestic sheep is determined missing from the Unit, the permittee will notify the District Ranger or Rangeland Management Specialist (within 12 hours of receiving the shepherd’s call) as defined in the updated *Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep/Domestic Sheep Escape Management Plan and Communication Protocol for the Rickey S&G Allotment (Labrosse Unit), Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Bridgeport Ranger District* (plan) (Boatner 2016). The Forest Service will immediately contact the Service and CDFW. The permittee and the Forest Service will immediately initiate a comprehensive search (hiking, driving, horseback) for the stray(s) and report to the Service and CDFW the results as discussed in the Plan;
9. The permittee will remove any sick or physically disabled (i.e., lack of ability to remain with the band) domestic sheep from the band before entering the Unit. The shepherd/permittee will immediately remove from the band any domestic sheep that becomes sick or physically disabled after the band has entered the Unit or provide prompt veterinary treatment to injured domestic sheep that are not disabled;
10. The shepherd’s camp, nighttime bedding ground, and midday bedding ground locations will be selected such that communication between guard dogs and herding dogs by smell, sound (barking), and sight is maintained and to take advantage of both guard dog and herding dog reticular activating systems. These locations will adhere to established “bed ground” standards;
11. The camp locations and bedding ground locations selected will be acceptable to domestic sheep and thus result in the sheep remaining within the bedding grounds. These locations will adhere to established “bed ground” standards;
12. Shepherders will carry cell phones so that they may contact appropriate personnel in case of domestic sheep straying or SNBS sightings. Currently, the Unit has small pockets without cell phone coverage, but areas of coverage are not greater than one mile away. In addition, there are options for land-line calls at Twin Lakes Resort and Doc and Al’s Resort which are located at the north and south ends of the Unit. Therefore, if calls/texts need to be made, it is anticipated that the shepherd will either be able to make calls from within the Unit or would be away from the herd for approximately 30 minutes. It is anticipated that cell phone coverage will continue to improve, thus minimizing areas without coverage and minimizing the time a herder would be away from the herd. For the majority of time that grazing operations are conducted in the Unit, herders have cell phone coverage or are within a few minutes of getting cell phone coverage;
13. The Bridgeport Ranger District will implement allotment administration actions. Forest Service personnel will visit the Unit once or twice during the grazing season, averaging one visit every 2 weeks while domestic sheep are on the Unit. This number may change based upon the actual season of use, but the average of 1 visit every 2 weeks will remain regardless; and

14. If at any time during the grazing period, a SNBS is opportunistically observed by CDFW, Forest Service, or other agency personnel north of the Trigger Line for the Unit, the shepherd will be notified by the Forest Service and will move the domestic sheep immediately and within 24 hours away from SNBS and northward to the main portion of the Rickey S&G Allotment.

#### CAMPBELL-LOOPE BAND-Francisco

Allotment	Number & Class	Authorized Head Months	Season
Campbell-Loope	1650 ewes	3038	08/08-10/03

- Authorized use for the Campbell-Loope Allotment is for 1650 dry ewes from 08/08 to 10/03. Total Authorization is for 3038 Head Months.

#### WINTER ALLOTMENTS

##### Permitted Use

\*You have not been billed for 2021/2022 use on your winter allotments. Please contact Aaron 30 days prior to turning out on the Sugarloaf and Sulphur allotments to arrange for authorization and billing.

**SUGARLOAF S&G:** 1800 e (maximum) variable numbers and seasons within the season 12/16-03/25, not to exceed 2100 sheep months; 35 days.

**SULPHUR S&G** (north): 5400 e (maximum in three different bands), variable numbers and seasons within the season 12/16-03/25, not to exceed 7200 sheep months; 36 days.

#### MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Allotment maps and management requirements, including improvement maintenance, salting, camping, and bedding for those allotments you are permitted to graze have been provided to you.

Only the F, M, Cross, Quartercircle W, Birds Head, M F Combined, Quartercircle L, and Circle Brands are authorized under your term grazing permit.

Range improvements listed under part three in your term permit must be maintained before livestock enter allotments. The maintenance standards, also listed in part three of your permit, must be followed when maintaining improvements. Range improvements must be maintained even when there is non-use on an allotment; for whatever reason.

Sheep may use a bedding/nooning area no more than **once** per season. No nooning/shading/bedding within 100 yards of all streams. Do not bed sheep within 200 yards of designated campgrounds, trails, trailheads, or maintained roads. "Good bedground management" was highlighted in your 1974 Sheep Management and Development Plan.

Practice open or loose herding and minimize the use of sheep herding dogs to avoid soil displacement. Only once over grazing is allowed. Graze rather than trail to water and do not water at the same locations. Route sheep to avoid steep slopes with loose soil, snow bank areas, and active rills or gullies.

Place salt at least ¼ mile from water, roads, and trails. If there are specific areas that require salt placement outside these guidelines, you must obtain approval from this office prior to salting. Haul dead livestock at least **100** yards from roads, trails, and water. All garbage and debris associated with

managing your livestock on Forest Service allotments must be removed from the National Forest.

If you or your employees spot a wildfire on any of your allotments, report it immediately to the Interagency Dispatch Center in Minden, NV at (775) 883-5995. As a reminder, if the Bridgeport Ranger District enters into fire restrictions during 2021, this restriction applies to your operation as well.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. A Noxious Weed Free Hay order has been implemented on our Forest. This requires any hay that is brought onto the National Forest must be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed **Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage** for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest. Pelletized feed is not affected by this order.

The Bridgeport Travel Management Record of Decision was signed on March 5, 2010. With the issuance of this decision all roads and trails designated for motor vehicle use will be identified on a motor vehicle use map (MVUM). As detailed in 36 CFR 261.13; 36 CFR 212.51a the prohibitions on motor vehicle use will not apply to motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal law or regulation (e.g., term grazing permit). Through the 2021 grazing season, you and your employees are authorized to travel on routes within the allotments in your permit to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of your term grazing permit (e.g. improvement maintenance, dead livestock removal).

## MONITORING RESULTS

Within the By-Day Creek drainage on the Rickey Allotment, revegetation of willows in the area has limited areas which are suitable for crossing and if possible this year try to have the band cross up stream or downstream from the Site 4 as described in the provided monitoring report. Monitoring will continue on the established short term points to determine if future actions are necessary.

The Poison Creek allotment will be priority for establishing long and short term monitoring locations during the 2021 season within Yosemite Toad and Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog suitable habitats. The Agency's ability to conduct monitoring on the district due to COVID-19 restrictions and staffing restrictions during the 2020 grazing season hindered collection of monitoring data for many planned locations. Cooperative monitoring and more data collection and monitoring may be asked of your operation as more monitoring requirements are imposed across the District.

## UTILIZATION STANDARDS

### Mill Canyon S&G:

**Disturbance** of meadow-associated **streambanks** and natural lake and pond **shorelines** is **not to exceed 10 percent** of the stream reach or **10 percent** of the natural lake or pond shoreline.

In meadows that are in **early** seral status (an early stage of succession in a plant community or vegetation type, generally characterized by plant species that are adapted to colonizing disturbed areas with a high proportion of bare soil) livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants must be limited to **30 percent** (or minimum **six-inch stubble height**).

In meadows that are in **late** seral status (fifty percent or more of the relative cover of the herbaceous layer is late seral with high similarity to the potential natural community, a diversity of age classes of

hardwood shrubs is present, and regeneration is occurring) livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants must be limited to a maximum of **30 percent** (or minimum **six-inch stubble height**).

In meadows that are **degraded** (such as those in early seral status with a greater than **ten percent** meadow area in **bare soil and active erosion**) **total rest** from grazing is required until they have recovered and have moved to a mid or late seral status.

In riparian areas browsing on mature riparian **shrubs** (including willow and aspen) is **not to exceed 20 percent** of the annual leader growth and is not to exceed more than **20 percent** of individual seedlings.

Standard not within the Framework, but within the Biological Opinion, 45% use of current year's growth on herbaceous species in upland sites

#### **Poison Creek S&G and Rickey S&G (NOT including By-Day Creek Drainage) allotments:**

**Disturbance** of meadow-associated **streambanks** and natural lake and pond **shorelines** is **not to exceed 20 percent** of the stream reach or **20 percent** of the natural lake or pond shoreline.

In meadows that are in **early** seral status (an early stage of succession in a plant community or vegetation type, generally characterized by plant species that are adapted to colonizing disturbed areas with a high proportion of bare soil) livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants must be limited to **30 percent** (or minimum **six-inch stubble height**).

In meadows that are in **late** seral status (fifty percent or more of the relative cover of the herbaceous layer is late seral with high similarity to the potential natural community, a diversity of age classes of hardwood shrubs is present, and regeneration is occurring) livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants must be limited to a maximum of **40 percent** (or minimum **four-inch stubble height**).

In meadows that are **degraded** (such as those in early seral status with a greater than **ten percent** meadow area in **bare soil and active erosion**) **total rest** from grazing is required until they have recovered and have moved to a mid or late seral status.

In riparian areas browsing on mature riparian **shrubs** (including willow and aspen) is **not to exceed 20 percent** of the annual leader growth and is not to exceed more than **20 percent** of individual seedlings.

In meadow areas of great gray owl protected activity centers {a protected activity center (PAC) is defined as an area established to protect breeding adults and their offspring}, maintain herbaceous meadow vegetation at least **12 inches** in height and **covering at least 90 percent** of the meadow. The great gray owl PAC within the Poison Creek S&G allotment is located just north of Secret Lake. It is estimated that the PAC covers 50 acres surrounding the nest site.

#### **Rickey S&G - By-Day Creek Drainage:**

The upper By-Day watershed on the Rickey S&G allotment has more restrictive allowable use standards because of the presence of Lahontan cutthroat trout. Use of herbaceous species within the riparian zone must not exceed 30% of the current year's growth. Use of shrub species (willows and aspen) must not exceed 20% of the twig length of the current year's growth. Utilization of herbaceous plants in the upland sites must not exceed 40% of the current year's growth and streambank disturbance must not exceed 10%.

**Campbell-Loope:**

**Disturbance** of meadow-associated **streambanks** and natural lake and pond **shorelines** is **not to exceed 20 percent** of the stream reach or **20 percent** of the natural lake or pond shoreline.

In meadows that are in **early** seral status (an early stage of succession in a plant community or vegetation type, generally characterized by plant species that are adapted to colonizing disturbed areas with a high proportion of bare soil) livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants must be limited to **30 percent** ( or minimum **six-inch stubble height**).

In meadows that are in **late** seral status (fifty percent or more of the relative cover of the herbaceous layer is late seral with high similarity to the potential natural community, a diversity of age classes of hardwood shrubs is present, and regeneration is occurring) livestock utilization of grass and grass-like plants must be limited to a maximum of **40 percent** (or minimum **six-inch stubble height**).

In meadows that are **degraded** (such as those in early seral status with a greater than **ten percent** meadow area in **bare soil and active erosion**) **total rest** from grazing is required until they have recovered and have moved to a mid or late seral status.

In riparian areas browsing on mature riparian **shrubs** (including willow and aspen) is **not to exceed 20 percent** of the annual leader growth and is not to exceed more than **20 percent** of individual seedlings.

**Remaining Spring and Summer Allotments:**

30% use on key species on range above 10,000 feet elevation

40% use on key species on range below 10,000 feet elevation

45% use on key species in riparian sites

20% use on willow species in riparian sites

40% use on grass species in aspen, sagebrush, and mountain brush sites

20% use on shrub species in aspen, sagebrush, and mountain brush sites

10% maximum soil disturbance on steep slopes and loose, sandy soils on range above 10,000 feet elevation

20% maximum soil disturbance on all other range above 10,000 feet elevation

10% maximum soil disturbance on steep slopes and on loose, sandy soils on range below 10,000 feet elevation

35% maximum soil disturbance on all other range

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your sheep to the next unit to be used or off the allotment when the last unit has been grazed. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining forage use or streambank disturbance levels, contact Rixey and he will help you.

## REPORTING

Allotment Summary Forms, for reporting actual use and maintenance costs are included. Please complete these forms and return them to this office by November 15, 2021 for summer allotments, and by March 30, 2021 for winter allotments. Thank you for returning last year's actual use and improvement maintenance forms in a timely manner.

## GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Allotments that have been combined in terms of management are not necessarily reflected in the annual Bill for Collection. Numbers and seasons in your grazing bill reflect the total head months of use on permitted allotments, but not necessarily the planned use on the ground. In cases where the bill differs from these instructions, the Annual Operating Instructions are the authorized use patterns to be implemented on the ground.

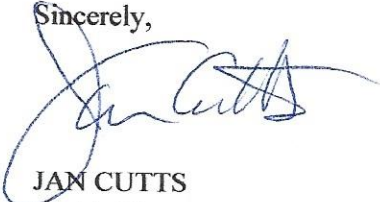
The grazing fees for 2021 are \$0.27 per head month for sheep.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience non-use is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience non-use may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

Payment of your grazing bill is due five days prior to your earliest turnout date to allow time for processing. As a reminder the Forest Service is required to give permittees a minimum of 30 days to pay your grazing fees. The Forest Service is requesting that permittees schedule their AOI meeting a minimum of 35 days prior to their earliest on date to provide adequate time to plan for the upcoming grazing season.

I trust that you will contact me any time you have a question so that we may keep our communication open. If you have any questions on the management of the above allotments, please feel free to contact Aaron at 760-932-5850.

Sincerely,



JAN CUTTS  
District Ranger